(H) SIGNED BUT YET TO BE RATIFIED Germany,

Mongolia,Tunisia, Turkey, Spain, Ukrain and France.

(b) Eighteen accused have been handed over to India.

(c) Proposals for signing the Extradition Treaties are under various stages of negotiations with the following countries: Bulgaria, Malaysia, Oman, Philippines, Poland, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Bahrain, Belarus, Brazil, Croatia, Cuba, Czech Republic, Egypt, Ghana, Greece, Iran, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Korea (ROK), Kyrgyzstan, Lithuania, Nepal, New Zealand, Nigeria, Qatar, Romania, Singapore, South Africa, Sudan, Thailand, Uganda, Yemen, Paraguay, Peru and Mexico.

Indo-Bangla relations

259. SHRI KARNENDU BHATTACHARJEE: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that of late India's relations with Bangladesh are fast deteriorating;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken to stem the tide in the worsening Indo-Bangla relations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI VINOD KHANNA): (a) to (c) India and Bangladesh share cordial relations. As two countries which share a long border of more than 4000 km border, problems relating to border management are bound to occur. They are resolved through discussions.

2. India and Bangladesh interact on an ongoing basis on various matters aimed at improving bilateral ties. A number of bilateral meetings take place regularly in addition to other vrsits at different levels between the two countries. Mr. M. Morshed Khan, Foreign Minister of Bangladesh visited India on 16-17 June, 2002 and the Minister of external Affairs visited to Dhaka on 24-25 August, 2002. Mr. M. Morshed Khan, Foreign Minister of Bangladesh again visited India on 13-16 February, 2003 at the invitation of External Affairs Minister. During these high level exchanges, discussions were held at the highest level on issues of mutual interest. The discussions have facilitated better understanding between the two Governments.